

**OBJECTIVES:** Detailed information is required for producing economic intelligence on the facilities and activities of organized telecommunications and postal systems in North Korea. Telecommunications and postal services are those provided by wireline, cable, fixed point-to-point radio, line-of-sight radio relay, and postal systems. Services provided by these media are: telephone, telegraph, facsimile, radiobroadcasting, wired broadcasting, and postal. The following requirements cover the various telecommunications and postal media, facilities, and services.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

**I. Telecommunications**

**A. Organization and Control**

1. What is the organizational structure of the Ministry of Communications?
2. Trace the chains of command through which policy-making, control, security, planning, operation, administration, construction, and maintenance functions for the telecommunications system are performed.
3. What are the functions of the military in the basic telecommunications system?
4. Where are the main control government telecommunications centers located?
5. How are the functions enumerated in Number 2 above, related to the present North Korean economic plan?
6. Outline the policy toward the present budget plans, investment plans, and capital construction plans giving absolute figures where possible.
7. What is the total employment figure for the Ministry of Communications? Give percentages by type of service, skilled and unskilled, male and female.
8. What are the various wages of employees by type of service?
9. What internal and external training is available to telecommunications employees? How many students are enrolled in telecommunications training?

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10. To what extent do the USSR and Communist China control telecommunications systems in North Korea?
11. What telecommunications agreements have been made between the USSR, Communist China, European Satellites and North Korea? What telecommunications agreements have been made between North Korea and non-bloc countries?

**B. Telecommunications Media**

**1. Wireline and Cable**

- a. How many kilometers of overhead wireline extend throughout the country? Kilometers of wire? What are the routes of the wireline?
- b. How many kilometers of underground and overhead cable extend throughout the country? What are the routes of the cable lines?
- c. Is there any indication that some overhead wirelines are being replaced by underground cable?
- d. Does any submarine cable exist? What is the length and route of this cable?
- e. What is the operating condition and capacity of the wireline and cable system in North Korea?
- f. What are the installation and maintenance costs for wireline and cable?
- g. What significant changes have been made in these media since 1949? Since the end of the Korean Conflict (1953)?

**2. Fixed Point-to-Point Radio**

- a. How many fixed point-to-point radio stations are in North Korea? Where are they located?
- b. How many radio transmitters are in North Korea? What type and in what condition is the equipment? What is the installation and maintenance cost of the equipment?

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- c. What is the relative proportion of use of radio to wireline for internal point-to-point communications?
- d. What significant changes have been made in this medium since 1949? Since the Korean Conflict (1953)?

3. Line-of-Sight Radio Relay

There are no known line-of-sight radio relay facilities in North Korea at the present time.

- a. Are there any plans for installing line-of-sight radio relay facilities in North Korea?
- b. If so, how many individual channels are contemplated? What will be their band widths? For what kind of services will they be used?
- c. What is the proposed route of the system? Where will the relay stations be located? Are the relay stations to be attended or unattended?
- d. What are the estimated installation and maintenance costs of the system?

C. Telecommunications Services

1. Telephone

- a. What is the total number of domestic and international telephone circuits in operation and where are they located? What percentage of these circuits are radio, and what percentage are wireline?
- b. What telephone service is available to government officials, military officials, and private individuals?
- c. How many telephone exchanges are automatic and manual?
- d. How many telephone subscribers are in North Korea? How many telephones? Where are the telephone receivers obtained? USSR? Communist China? European Satellites? What is the cost of a telephone?

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- e. What percentage of North Korea can be reached by telephone?
- f. What are the total number of telephone calls made in each available year? Local? Domestic long-distance? International long-distance? What are the rates for each category? Ordinary, commercial, governmental, and military?
- g. What significant changes have been made in the telephone service since 1949? Since the end of the Korean Conflict, (1953)?

## 2. Telegraph

- a. What is the total number of domestic and international telegraph circuits in operation and where are they located? What percentage of these circuits are radio, and what percentage are wireline?
- b. What telegraph service is available to government officials, military officials, and private individuals?
- c. What percentage of the telegraph system is manual and automatic?
- d. What percentage of the installed equipment was manufactured outside of North Korea? Name the countries and give any details about the cost of this equipment.
- e. What percentage of North Korea can be reached by the telegraph system?
- f. What are the total number of telegrams sent in each available year? Domestic and international? What are the rates for each category? Ordinary, commercial, governmental, and military?
- g. What significant changes have been made in the telegraph service since 1949? Since the end of the Korean Conflict, (1953)?
- h. What systems are currently in use (simplex, duplex, facsimile, telegraph, teletypewriter)? Give as much detail as possible.

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**3. Radiobroadcasting**

- a. How many radiobroadcasting stations are in operation? Where are they located? On what frequency band is each station heard?
- b. How many radio receivers are in use? Are these imported? From where? What are the prices of the various radio receivers? Is there a license fee?
- c. Give an estimate of the percentage of families having radio receivers capable of receiving foreign broadcasts?
- d. What percentage of the population can be reached via radiobroadcasting for the dissemination of news and propaganda?

**4. Wired Broadcasting**

- a. How many wired broadcasting centers are in operation? Where are they located?
- b. How many wired loudspeakers are in use? Are these "home" loudspeakers or "public square" loudspeakers? What is the total length of wire involved in this system?
- c. What percentage of the total number of wired loudspeakers are in rural areas?
- d. What are the prices and license fees for a loudspeaker?
- e. What significant changes have been made in the broadcasting (radio and wire) service, 1949 to date? Since the end of the Korean Conflict, (1953)?

**5. Functional Systems**

- a. What telecommunications facilities are owned and/or rented by the following segments: military, railroad, meteorological, civil air, maritime and others?
- b. What part does the Ministry of Communications play in the operation and financing of these functional systems?

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## II. Postal

- A. Trace the chains of command through which policy-making, control, security, planning, operation, administrative, and constructive of the postal system from the Minister of Communications down through the province, county, city, and rural area.
- B. What authority does each in A exercise and for what are they responsible?
- C. What are the various types of offices in the system? Are these offices included in the telephone and telegraph offices?
- D. What is the volume of mail for each available year in the following categories: letters, parcels, money orders, newspapers, periodicals, books? What are the rates for each? What are the total revenues received from the above categories?
- E. What is the length of the postal route for each available year in the following categories: courier, railroad, highway, and airline?
- F. How many postal employees are there? What are their functions and wages?
- G. How well does the postal system serve the population? What is the speed of service between cities?
- H. What significant changes have been made in the postal system since 1949? Since the end of the Korean Conflict, (1953)?